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**Collection: Deaver, Michael**  
**Folder Title: First Family Residence (1)**

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** DEAVER, MICHAEL: FILES

**Withdrawer**

DLB 3/16/2011

**File Folder** FIRST FAMILY - RESIDENCE (1)

**FOIA**

S11-0411/01

**Box Number** 10867

SYSTEMATIC

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DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - APRIL 1983	5	ND	B6
2	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - JANUARY 1983	5	ND	B6
3	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - DECEMBER 1982	7	ND	B6
4	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 1982	6	ND	B6
5	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - OCTOBER 1982	5	ND	B6
6	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 1982	6	ND	B6
7	FORM	FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - AUGUST 1982	5	ND	B6

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 14, 1983

recd  
11/14/83

MEMORANDUM TO MRS. REAGAN

FROM: CLEM CONGER

SUBJECT: New draperies in the East Room

At long last the new draperies for the East Room were installed on November 13-14, 1983. There is enclosed a draft press release which gives most of the details on the new draperies which are a great improvement over the earlier ones. This is certainly the longest running project in contemporary White House history. But, we are extremely pleased with the results.

The new draperies have a valance between the fall of the draperies and the gilt cornices which date from the Theodore Roosevelt renovation, 1902. All the experts in the field felt that the cornice was much too thin to be the only ornament at the top of the draperies, so now there is a valance under the cornice which puts the whole composition more in scale with the room.

The search for this same material as the 1965 fabric took unexpectedly long. It was naturally assumed that it had been made by Jansen of Paris who made most of the draperies in the Kennedy era. However, Jansen did not have the design and only the diligent search by Old World Weavers, New York of virtually every fabric manufacturing firm in France, finally turned up the original patterns. Manufacture was very time consuming because this material has an 11-foot repeat before the pattern resumes again which is unheard of in today's trade. The normal repeat usually never exceeds 2 or 3 feet. Also this material was hand-loomed in a narrow width as originally composed.

The draperies were made in Lyons, France, by Tassinari and Chatel, a company founded in 1762. Each panel is 4½ yards long and 30 inches wide and consists of four different Jacquard

designs. The classical patterns are of the Empire and Directoire periods and include such motifs as butterflies, roosters, cupids and vases with flowers. Made of 100% silk lampas, the fabric is a cream design on a yellow-gold ground and took 15 months to prepare, dye, and weave. The valance, also handwoven, is a plain matching gold ground of satin and is 50 inches wide. The 2½ inch wide galoon, or border, is designed with a butterfly and wreath motif and required six months to weave.

The most discouraging factor in installing the new draperies was the inordinate delay (over the last two or three years) due to the inability of the White House Communications Office and the television and radio networks to come to an agreement for new electronic wiring systems in the East Room and the State Dining Room. Punning cables through the windows of the East Room hastened the deterioration of the 1965 draperies.

cc: Michael Deaver  
David Gergen - The information in the last paragraph was provided by Mark Goode.  
James Rosebush  
Rex Scouten  
Larry Speakes  
Sheila Tate

## EAST ROOM DRAPERIES

New draperies were installed in the East Room on November 13-14, 1983. They replaced draperies selected for the room during the Kennedy administration and installed in the room in 1965.

The gold silk fabric of the 1965 draperies has been especially duplicated for the new draperies. In addition, new gold satin valances have been designed. The design of the new draperies was created by the late Edward V. Jones, consulting architect and interior design expert to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, with the assistance of David Richmond Byers, W.E. Browne Decorating Company, Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Jones designed the period draperies for all of the Ground and State Floor rooms during the period of the 1970's. The design was approved by the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and Mrs. Carter in the Carter administration.

Delay in the preparation and hanging of the new draperies was caused by the difficult and long search by Old World Weavers, New York, to find the original Jacquard designs at the Tassinari and Chatel plant in Lyons, France. The firm has been in existence since 1762 and has made the reproduction fabrics for Versailles. Old World Weavers had a tremendous amount (703 yards) of material especially made for the seven large East Room windows. The material was difficult to fabricate. It has an 11-foot repeat which is

almost unheard of in the trade today. Also, this material was hand-loomed in a narrow width as originally composed. The new draperies are 15 feet 4 inches tall exclusive of the valance and cornice. New swags and jabots based on 19th century tradition were designed to complement the original 1902 Stanford White gilt wood cornices.

Each panel is 4½ yards long and 30 inches wide and consists of four different Jacquard designs. The classical patterns are of the Empire and Directoire periods and include such motifs as butterflies, roosters, cupids and vases with flowers. Made of 100% silk lampas, the fabric is a cream design on a yellow-gold ground and took 15 months to prepare, dye, and weave. The valance, also handwoven, is a plain matching gold ground of satin and is 50 inches wide. The 2¼ inch wide galloon, or border, is designed with a butterfly and wreath motif and required six months to weave.

Preparation of the new draperies was completed in September 1982 by W.E. Browne Decorating Company, Atlanta, Georgia. Further delay in installation was caused by lengthy negotiations for a new electronic wiring system for television and radio networks in the East Room and State Dining Room.

The cost of the new draperies has been paid by the White House Historical Association from the proceeds of the sale of The White House; An Historic Guide and other White House Historical Association publications.

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1 FORM	5	ND	B6
FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - APRIL 1983			

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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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2 FORM	5	ND	B6
FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - JANUARY 1983			

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FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - DECEMBER  
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FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - NOVEMBER  
1982

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FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - OCTOBER 1982

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FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER  
1982

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FIRST FAMILY COST SUMMARY - AUGUST 1982

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